



Capt. Bill Wadsworth of the Duxbury Fire Department tightens a hose on a hydrant during the burst hose event.

Under fire

Firefighters from nine towns test their skills during a muster held Sunday in Duxbury.

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Dave LaBuff of the Middleboro Fire Department is covered with mud following a drill at the Duxbury muster.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

BROCKTON ENTERPRISE
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Ken Caron of the Hanson Fire Department puts his weight on a hose to keep the nozzle aimed at a target.

DUXBURY— Teams from nine towns gathered at Train Field Sunday to compete in an old-fashioned firemen's muster held in conjunction with the celebration of the town's 350th anniversary.

Threatening skies and even a brief heavy downpour did not keep spectators away, and a crowd estimated at 3,000 was on hand to watch the festivities. Firefighter Tim Lannan, muster chairman, said the event attracted "more people than we imagined. This is great, though, I'm not complaining."

The competition tested a variety of firefighting skills. Halifax was the overall winner for the day with a total combined time of 162.5 seconds. Duxbury's fire department, which fielded two teams, took both second and third places with times of 182.9 and 185.3 seconds, respectively.

Chief Dana Harriman of the Carver Fire Department, Chief Kenneth Calvin of Halifax, and Deputy Chief Kevin Robinson of

Marshfield judged participants in the five events.

Rockland placed first in the midnight-alarm competition, followed by Plympton in second place and Hanson in third. Halifax won the burst-hose event, with Duxbury's A team coming in second and Middleboro finishing third.

Middleboro also won first honors in the bucket-brigade competition, followed by Duxbury's B team and Halifax. Halifax also took first place in the triple-hose event. Rockland placed second in the event and Plympton finished third.

In the ladies' competition, Kingston finished with a time of 15.2 seconds, a full nine seconds ahead of second-place Duxbury. Middleboro came in third with a time of 25 seconds.

Roger Ladd of the Duxbury Fire Department and his wife, MaryBeth, recorded all scores. Officer Curt Dow of the Duxbury Po-

lice Department served as starter for all events.

Before the muster, more than 35 fire engines from area towns paraded through the streets of Duxbury. Parade judges C. Martin Delanc of the Board of Selectmen, William Borhek of the Fiscal Committee, and Maxene Armour, its chairwoman of the 350th Anniversary Celebration Committee, reviewed the vehicles and awarded prizes in five categories.

The judges' favorite for the parade was Middleboro's Engine 5. Scituate's Bolton engine was judged the best antique. West Barnstable won the prize for longest distance traveled to participate, at 40 miles. Pembroke won for oldest engine in service with a 1941 Maxim engine, and Plymouth's 1987 LTI ladder truck was the newest in service.

Some of the funds raised at the muster will be used to restore Duxbury's 1928 American LaFrance pumping truck.